

REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE			Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188	
Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0704-0188), Washington, DC 20503.				
1. AGENCY USE ONLY (Leave Blank)	2. REPORT DATE June 1982	3. REPORT TYPE AND DATES COVERED Final		
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE Summary of Commentary in Pravda on Sub-Saharan Africa			5. FUNDING NUMBERS	
6. AUTHOR(S) Gerald Cady Rachel Warner John Stepanchuk				
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) Federal Research Division Library of Congress Washington, DC 20540-4840			8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) N/A			10. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY REPORT NUMBER	
11. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES Prepared under an Interagency Agreement			19960827 020	
12a. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for public release; distribution unlimited.				
12b. DISTRIBUTION CODE				
13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words) This monthly survey compiles translations of political, and economic articles on sub-Saharan Africa that appear in <u>Pravda</u> . DTIC QUALITY INSPECTED 4				
14. SUBJECT TERMS Africa, Sub-Sahara Government National security Politics Economy			15. NUMBER OF PAGES Various lengths	
			16. PRICE CODE	
17. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF REPORT UNCLASSIFIED	18. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF THIS PAGE UNCLASSIFIED	19. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF ABSTRACT UNCLASSIFIED	20. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT SAR	

SUMMARY OF COMMENTARY IN PRAVDA ON SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA
(April 22 - May 21, 1982)

June 1982

Prepared by the Federal Research Division of
the Library of Congress under an interagency agreement

Analyst: Gerald Cady

PREFACE

This monthly survey compiles articles on sub-Saharan Africa which appear in Pravda. It has been prepared since April 1980. Pravda is the official newspaper of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. Items published are presumably authoritative. Articles dealing with Soviet political, military, or economic interests in Africa are entirely translated or extensively excerpted or summarized. News accounts which heavily rely on news services of other countries are simply noted. All entries have been arranged chronologically under general African or country headings. FBIS translations are summarized or annotated for reader reference; duplication is avoided.

Summary of Commentary In Pravda on Sub-Saharan Africa
(22 April - 21 May 1982)*

Africa General

Solidarity Conference in Addis Ababa

(Excerpt) The second international conference of the Organization for Solidarity with the Peoples of Asia and Africa began in the capital of Ethiopia. The conference examined the question of economic development strategies and the role of multinational corporations. The insidious role of these corporations, pillaging the resources of the developing states and placing barriers in the path of progressive development, is viewed with deep concern by the world community. (1 May 82, p. 1)

Problems of Economic Liberation

[(Excerpts) Pravda published a 1,500-word report by correspondent A. Serbin under the heading "'Economic Recommendations' or a Political Conspiracy? The West and the Development of African Countries." Serbin outlines the problems of "economic liberation" by African countries with a focus on the recommendations of a report published last year by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. This report criticized the "regulating role of the state in the economy," and Serbin foresees the elimination of Western aid unless the African countries take steps to de-socialize their economies. (10 May 82, p. 6, and summarized by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #104, 28 May 82, p. J2).]

Solar Energy Centers

(Excerpt) Under the aegis of the United Nations, the Economic Commission for Africa opened an international conference in Addis Ababa to consider questions involving the establishment of African centers devoted to study the application of solar energy. (16 May 82, p. 5)

African National Congress

Nzo Visits Moscow

(Excerpt) On 14 May a meeting was held between B. N. Ponomarev, Candidate Member of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, and R. A. Ulyanovsky, Deputy Chief of the Central Committee International Department, and an African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) delegation headed by ANC Secretary General A. Nzo. Nzo spoke of the upsurge in the struggle against the racist South African regime and the ANC's activity to lead that struggle and to rally all the country's patriotic forces into a united national liberation front. (15 May 82, p. 4, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #099, 21 May 82, p. J2)

*Not including the editions of 22 Apr and 5, 7, and 15 May.

Angola

Planned South African Attack

(Excerpt) The racist Republic of South Africa is preparing a new large-scale attack against the People's Republic of Angola like that which they undertook last August, declared Angola's Minister of Defense Pedro Maria Tonha. He also said that the South Africans already have massed troops and materiel on Namibia's border with Angola and intended to strike in the direction of the city of Onjiva, the administrative center of Cunene Province, that they had previously occupied. (26 Apr 82, p. 1)

Ilichev in Luanda

(Excerpts) J. E. dos Santos, Chairman of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) - Labor Party and President of the People's Republic of Angola, has received L. F. Ilichev, Deputy Foreign Minister and head of a Soviet delegation currently in Luanda, who delivered a message from L. I. Brezhnev. During a conversation, which took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere, there was an exchange of opinions on several international problems, particularly on the situation in southern Africa. (28 Apr 82, p. 5)

USSR-Angola Friendship Society

(Excerpt) The USSR-Angola Friendship Society began its second all-union public conference in Moscow. The conference objective is a growth in the solidarity of the Soviet public with the people of Angola and their just struggle to maintain their independence and sovereignty. (29 Apr 82, p. 4)

Profile of Workers

[Pravda's correspondent M. Zenovich profiles two workers, who differ in age, occupation, educational achievement, and live in vastly different sections of the country, but who share a common Socialist belief. (3 May 82, p. 6)]

Cooperation Commission Established

(Excerpt) At a meeting of heads of economic ministries and departments in Luanda it was decided to establish a commission that would develop general legislation designed to improve cooperation, especially in the rural economic field, the fishing industry, and the handicraft sector. (9 May 82, p. 4)

Talks with Zambia

(Excerpt) After party-governmental negotiations between the People's Republic of Angola and the Republic of Zambia, a joint communique was issued calling on the Republic of South Africa to heed international demands for the withdrawal of its troops from the territory of Angola. (10 May 82, p. 1)

Parliamentarian Delegation

(Excerpt) A delegation of the People's Assembly of Angola headed by a member of the Central Committee of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) - Labor Party and First Secretary of the People's Assembly B. de Sousa arrived in Moscow for an official visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet. (13 May 82, p. 4)

Parliamentarians Visit Kiev

(Excerpt) The delegation of the People's Assembly of Angola headed by B. de Sousa, Member of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) - Labor Party and First Secretary of the Assembly, visited the Ukraine for 3 days. (17 May 82, p. 4)

Census

(Excerpt) According to the newspaper Journal di Angola, a national population census is to be conducted in 1983. (17 May 82, p. 4)

Invasion Preparations

(Excerpt) In the past few days the South African armed forces have been actively making preparations for large-scale military aggression against the People's Republic of Angola on the model of their actions last August and September. (18 May 82, p. 5)

War Losses

(Text) Angola's material losses resulting from the aggression by the Republic of South Africa from the period 1975 to 1980 amounted to \$7 billion according to a report written by United Nations specialists. (19 May 82, p. 5)

Parliamentarians in Tashkent

(Excerpt) A delegation from the Angolan People's Assembly, headed by B. de Sousa, Member of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) - Labor Party Central Committee and First Secretary of the People's Assembly, is in Tashkent familiarizing itself with life in Uzbekistan. (20 May 82, p. 4)

Parliamentarians Received by Kuznetsov

(Excerpt) On 20 May N. V. Kuznetsov, Candidate Member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, received at the Kremlin the Angolan People's Assembly delegation headed by M. Bernardo de Sousa, Member of the Central Committee of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) - Labor Party and First Secretary of the People's Assembly. (21 May 82, p. 4)

Benin

Interparty Ties

(Excerpt) In accordance with the plan for interparty ties between the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) and the Benin People's Revolutionary Party (PRPB), a delegation of CPSU workers headed by N. V. Merenischev, Candidate Member of the CPSU Central Committee, arrived in the People's Republic of Benin to familiarize itself with organizational and ideological work of the PRPB. (28 Apr 82, p. 4)

CPSU Delegation

(Excerpt) A delegation of Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) workers headed by N. V. Merenischev, Candidate Member of the CPSU Central Committee, was in the People's Republic of Benin on a visit from 27 April to 4 May under the plan for ties between the CPSU and the Benin People's Revolutionary Party (PRPB). The delegation familiarized itself with the PRPB's experience of party organizational work and ideological work. (6 May 82, p. 4, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #098, 20 May 82, p. J1)

Chad

Fighting Resumes

(Excerpt) Reports from the Republic of Chad are sounding threatening as in the past few days the atmosphere has again intensified. After a temporary lull, the fighting has erupted again between the forces of the Transitional Government of National Unity headed by G. Oueddei and the so-called "armed forces of the North" which are led by the previous minister of defense H. Habre. (17 May 82, p. 5)

Congo

Interparty Cooperation

(Excerpt) A plan for party ties between the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) and the Congolese Labor Party (PCT) for 1982-1983 has been signed here [Brazzaville]. The signing of this plan is a significant event in the development of ties between the two parties. It embodies in concrete deeds the agreement on cooperation between the CPSU and PCT and the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the USSR and the Congo signed in Moscow in 1981. (14 May 82, p. 1, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #097, 19 May 82, p. J1)

Ethiopia

Rural Construction

(Excerpt) In the rural regions of the Ethiopian provinces of Arussi and Hararge there has recently been established a "Project Babe" (Babe is the name of

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a river), a mass governmental institution designed to implement new construction in the countryside. (25 Apr 82, p. 6)

Mass Organization

(Excerpt) The organizing of two public mass organizations, a trade union and peasant association, continues in Ethiopia. The goals in the formation of these associations' structures are to bring about a stronger union of the working and peasant classes, strengthen the mass base of the revolution, and increase these organizations' role in the Socialist transformation of society. (2 May 82, p. 4)

Prizes for Coffee

(Excerpt) Ethiopian coffee won the silver medal at the International Leipzig [German Democratic Republic] Fair. (3 Mar 82, p. 6)

Revolutionary Transformations

(Excerpt) In revolutionary Ethiopia today political power can no longer be found in the hands of oppressors. The material base of the previous government--the landowners, the bourgeoisie, and the comprador capital sector--has been entirely liquidated. These realities were declared in a May Day speech by Mengistu Haile Mariam, Chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC) and Chairman of the Commission for the Organizing of a Party of Workers in Ethiopia (COPWE). He also went on to state that the development of Ethiopia's struggle was completely defined. Ethiopia's final goal is socialism. (4 May 82, p. 4)

Red Star Campaign

(Excerpt) According to a report from Asmara, the first stage of the building program, outlined in the framework of the Red Star campaign for the development of Eritrea, has been accomplished. The task of this initial phase was the renovation of seven hospitals, the repair of an airfield, and the resumption of construction of a road between Keren and Afaabet. (11 May 82, p. 5)

Ghana

Improved Labor Standards

(Text) In an effort to improve the workers' standard of living in Ghana the Provisional National Defense Council approved a measure for paid leave/vacation for low-paid workers and servants. (27 Apr 82, p. 1)

Guinea

Presidential Election

(Text) Ahmed Sekou Toure was again elected to a 7-year term as president of the Guinea People's Revolutionary Republic. (16 May 82, p. 4)

Lesotho

Communist Party of Lesotho

[(Excerpts) Pravda published an article by J. Mosoto [?] marking the 20th anniversary of the pro-Moscow Communist Party of Lesotho (CPL). The CPL, which is still working under cover, supports the positive elements in the government's foreign policy while simultaneously criticizing its undemocratic and unpopular policy. Enemy number one of the Basuto people still is the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa which exploits both its labor and natural resources. (4 May 82, p. 4, and summarized by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #090, 10 May 82, p. J2)]

Namibia

Report of Hostilities by SWAPO

(Excerpt) According to a communique issued by the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), the People's Liberation Army of Namibia killed 7 and wounded 10 members of the South African occupation forces in a successful military action. (2 May 82, p. 4)

Frontline States' Meeting

(Summary) The foreign ministers of the frontline states met recently in Tanzania and issued a communique in which they declared that armed struggle remained the most effective means of gaining Namibia's independence, since the peaceful path of settling the problem is blocked by the enemies of the Namibian people, the racist Republic of South Africa, and the Western "Contact Group." (8 May 82, p. 5)

UN Meeting in Tanzania

(Excerpt) An extraordinary United Nations session on Namibia opened in Arusha, Tanzania. Participants at the meeting included leaders from the Organization of African Unity, the frontline states, the South-West Africa People's Organization, and the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa. They considered the current situation in Namibia and the quickest way to achieve independence for this country. (11 May 82, p. 4)

Nigeria

Cooperation Agreement

(Excerpt) A cooperation agreement in the fields of industry and mining was signed between the USSR and Nigeria. (20 May 82, p. 5)

Republic of South Africa

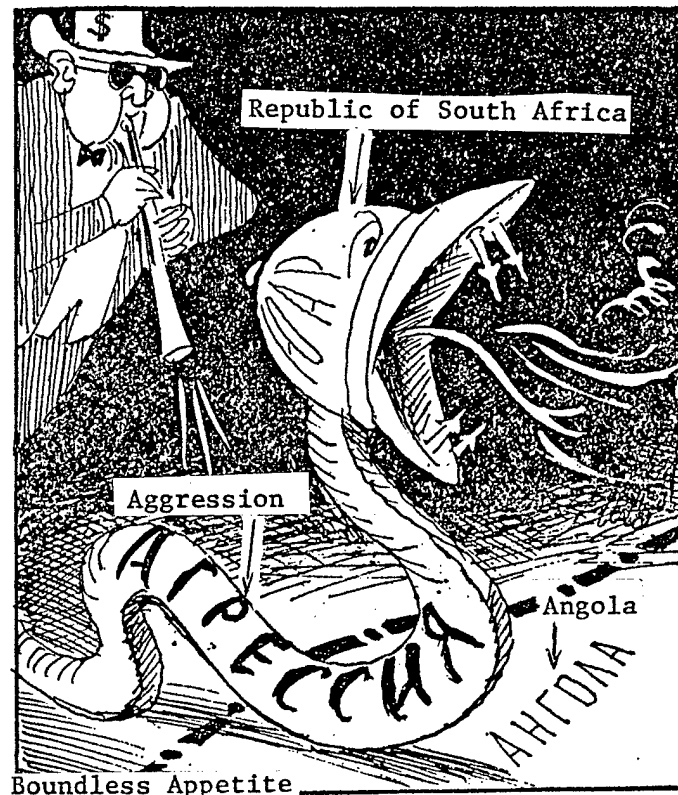
UK - RSA Collusion

(Excerpts) The Conservative Government of Margaret Thatcher, with full concurrence of Washington in its behind-the-scenes game, is taking practical steps in preparation for the protracted conflict with Argentina. In particular, there are the negotiations that were held by a member of the British Parliament on behalf of his nation's ministers of defense and foreign affairs with the Republic of South Africa (RSA). The acquisition by Britain of the naval base at Simonstown in the racist RSA is now viewed with paramount importance by London. (28 Apr 82, p. 5)

Military Cooperation with the US and UK

(Excerpts) A high-level delegation from the American Congress concerned with military matters arrived in the Republic of South Africa. Following on the heels of these emissaries from Washington was a member of the British Parliament who was charged with the authority to negotiate with the racist authorities by the ministers of defense and foreign affairs of his country. The major theme of their negotiations has been the formalization of broader cooperation in military matters and the sharing of intelligence information. Also discussed were the problems associated with the use of American and British naval vessels of South African naval facilities. (3 May 82, p. 5)

US-Inspired Aggression Against Angola



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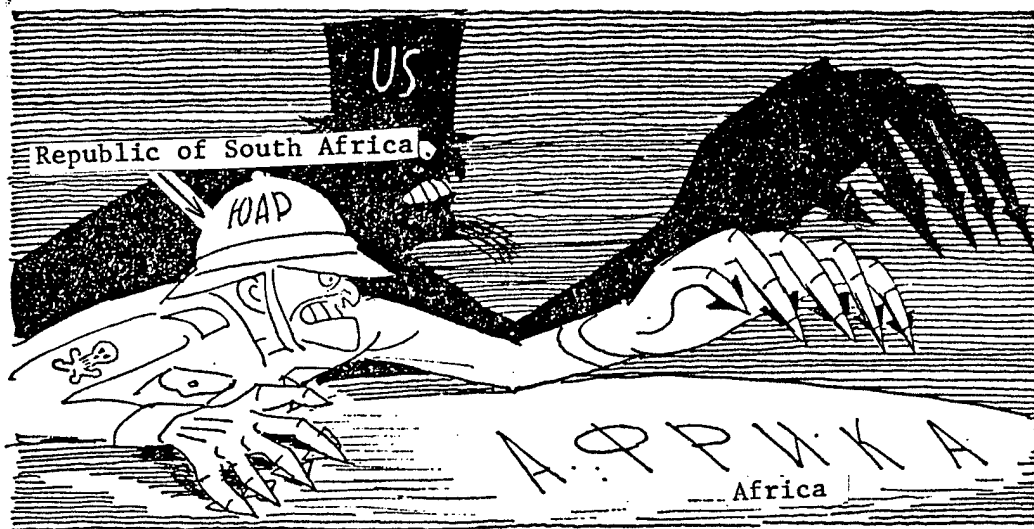
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(6 May 82, p. 5)

US Backing for South African Aggression



(14 May 82, p. 5)

Anti-Apartheid Conference

(Excerpt) An international conference on Women and Apartheid ended in the capital of Belgium. This conference was sponsored by the Special Committee of the United Nations Against Apartheid and the International Committee for Solidarity with the Struggle by Women in South Africa and Namibia [presumably a Soviet-backed group]. (21 May 82, p. 4)

Rwanda

Namibian Policy

(Excerpt) The foreign minister of Rwanda, during a visit to Mozambique, declared that his country fully supported the position of the Organization of African Unity on the question of Namibia. (11 May 82, p. 4)

Sao Tome and Principe

Hydroelectric Energy Protocol

(Excerpts) On 20 May N. K. Baibakov, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and Chairman of Gosplan [central economic planning agency], met with E. da Koshta, Planning Minister of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe. Later a protocol dealing with cooperation in the hydroelectric energy field and in other fields was signed. (21 May 82, p. 4)

Tanzania

Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister in Dar es Salaam

(Excerpt) Tanzania's President J. Nyerere today received L. Ilichev, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, who is heading a delegation to Tanzania. Ilichev presented President Nyerere with a personal message from L. I. Brezhnev. Opinions were exchanged on several international problems, including the situation in South Africa. (8 May 82, p. 4)

Interparty Ties

(Excerpt) In accordance with the plan for interparty ties between the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) and the Revolutionary Party of Tanzania (CCM), a delegation of CCM workers headed by D. Mandanda, member of the Party's National Executive Committee, was in the Soviet Union from 30 April. The delegation familiarized itself with the CPSU's experience of work in the sphere of leadership of agriculture. (14 May 82, p. 4, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #097, 19 May 82, p. J1)

Zaire

Restoration of Relations with Israel

(Text) Saudi Arabia announced that it was severing ties with the Republic of Zaire after Zaire's decision to restore diplomatic relations with Israel. (20 May 82, p. 5)

Zambia

Ilichev in Lusaka

(Excerpts) L. F. Ilichev, USSR Deputy Foreign Minister, met with Zambian President K. Kaunda during a visit to Zambia. During the friendly talks, President Kaunda noted that the Soviet delegation has arrived in Zambia at a very crucial moment, not just for southern Africa but for the whole world. The Soviet Union's appeals for the strengthening of the progressive forces' unity and for preserving peace are extremely important. Touching on [this] situation in Africa, the need to strengthen the unity of the continent's states within the OAU framework was noted. (5 May 82, p. 4, and translated in toto by FBIS Soviet Union Daily Report #092, 12 May 82, p. J1)

Talks with Angola

[See item listed under Angola for 10 May.]

Deputy Foreign Minister in Lusaka

(Excerpt) L. F. Ilichev, Deputy Foreign Minister of the USSR and head of a Soviet delegation, concluded his visit after consultations with Zambian officials. The delegation held talks with President K. Kaunda, who was given a personal message from L. Brezhnev. (6 May 82, p. 4)

New Currency

(Excerpt) Zimbabwe has begun to change its currency which has been in circulation since colonial times. (10 May 82, p. 6)

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